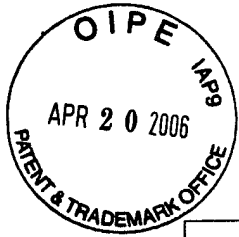
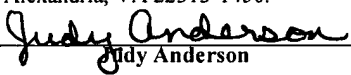


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| ART UNIT: 1655 | AMENDMENT/RESPONSE CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 DATE OF DEPOSIT: April 17, 2006 I hereby certify that this paper or fee (along with any paper or fee referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.  Judy Anderson |
| EXAMINER: Coe, Susan D | |
| APPLICANT: Cherukuri, Subraman Rao | |
| SERIAL NO.: 10/024,583 | |
| FILED: 12/21/01 | |
| CONFRM. NO.: 2492 | |
| FOR: CHEWY PRODUCTS AND PROTEIN-BASED CHEWY PRODUCTS AND METHODS FOR MAKING THE SAME | |

THORPE NORTH & WESTERN, LLP
8180 South 700 East, Suite 200
Sandy, Utah 84070

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed November 16, 2005, please enter the amendments and remarks provided below and reconsider the patent application in view thereof. A petition for a two month extension of time and the appropriate fee as well as an affidavit under 35 C.F.R 1.132 are enclosed herewith.

STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW

An in-person interview was held with Examiner Coe on February 23, 2006. Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for taking time out of her schedule to attend the interview, as well as for her professional decorum during the interview.

During the interview proposed claims and their distinctions from the asserted '631 and '681 references were discussed. Specifically, the fact that these references really only teach gums was discussed and Applicants pointed out to the Examiner that the claimed invention was for a chewy formulation that was to be masticated for a very short period of time and then swallowed in order to deliver a therapeutic agent.

Applicants also raised the reheatable nature of the formulation. That is, that the formulation can be produced and then reheated at a later time if desired, to add additional ingredients, such as therapeutic agents, and then again cooled into a servable formulation without losing its integrity. Discussed that this is generally untrue of most gums and therefore a characteristic that distinguishes the present invention from the asserted references.